

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, immediately following the title, please add the following new section:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is a National Stage application of PCT/EP2004/010062, filed September 9, 2004, which claims priority from German Patent Application Nos. DE 103 41 612.9, 103 41 633.1, 103 41 632.3, 103 41 615.3, 103 41 613.7, and 103 41 614.5, all filed on September 10, 2003 and German Patent Application No. DE 10 2004 042954.5 filed on September 2, 2004.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 23 with the following

--A parallel German Patent Application No. 102004042947.2 having the same filing date (BASF AG) relates to a process for preparing XDA by continuously hydrogenating liquid PN over a heterogeneous catalyst in the presence of liquid ammonia in a reactor, wherein a stream of a phthalonitrile melt is conducted in liquid form by means of a mixer unit into a stream of liquid ammonia and the liquid mixture is fed into the hydrogenation reactor.--